

FIGHTING THEM OVER.

What Our Veterans Have to Say About Their Old Campaigns.

The Editor desires communications for publication in the Fighting Them Over and Picket Shots columns. Contributors are requested to write frequently, briefly, to the point, on one side of the paper, and to be as accurate as possible. The Editor is not responsible for the return of the copy, but will be glad to return it if it is not wanted. The Editor is not responsible for the return of the copy, but will be glad to return it if it is not wanted.

ZOLICOFFER'S DEATH.

What was seen by a Captain of the 4th Ky. at Mill Spring.

A GREAT many true accounts have been published concerning the death of Gen. Zolicoffer at Mill Spring, Ky., Jan. 19, 1862, but none of them corresponds to my personal recollections of it; and as Gen. Fry (he was promoted after the battle) has passed away, I desire to give an account, for I know as much about the death of Gen. Zolicoffer as parties making statements who were not present when it occurred.

I joined the 4th Ky.—Col. Speed S. Fry commanding—at Camp Dick Robinson, Ky., Aug. 27, 1861, and was appointed Sergeant-Major of the regiment. In the fall of 1861, we were appointed Captain of Co. B, but remained with Col. Fry's headquarters until after the battle of Mill Spring.

The night of Jan. 18, 1862, my Colonel and I slept together. Early in the morning of the 19th we were aroused, in conversation, just about daylight. It was a dark, rainy morning. Our brigade commander rode up and informed Col. Fry that the enemy was upon us.

The regiment formed as soon as possible, right flanked, and we were ordered to march a mile to the sound of an occasional gunshot. We left the road and turned into an open field up the ridge, still marching by the right flank, along a line of warm fence, back of which was heavy timber, underbrush, and a road we had not seen before. The enemy began firing at us from a ridge across a ravine about 250 yards distance. Their line extended around the ridge, and our right ran into them before we were aware of it. Orderly-Sergeant Butts, of Co. B, was there wounded and taken prisoner, the only man captured on our side in the fight.

It got too hot for us, and we fell back behind the fence into the underbrush. Cos. A, B, and C, on the right, were driven back a short distance from the fence across the road. The road ran within 15 or 20 feet of the field fence on our right, and we were obliged to the right, forming an angle, and, on account of the underbrush, a person 20 feet from the angle could not see any one approach from the opposite direction until he arrived at the angle. To our right near the ridge the underbrush was not so thick.

We could not see the enemy in person at first, but fired at the gun-batteries. We had had it pretty hot for perhaps 20 or 30 minutes, when the firing almost ceased on our right front.

A man rode around the angle in the road on a gray horse. He wore a white rubber coat and a blue army cap. Ten or 15 feet from the angle he halted in full view, within 50 feet of us, reconnoitering. An East Tennesseean I forgot his name—belonging to our regiment—was the first to give him a glimpse, for he had his cap-box in the hurry that evening, and he wished to shoot that man, saying that he was "old Zolly himself."

I told him that he was mistaken; that it was Lieut. Wolford, of the 1st Ky. Cav. I had met Wolford a day or two before, riding the same kind of a horse, and the man resembled him very much. The Tennesseean assured me that he knew Gen. Zolicoffer better than he did myself, and insisted on shooting him, but I would not allow him to do so. After remarking that he was a "damned good shot," he rode back to the angle in the road.

In a very short time afterwards we discovered about 60 men dressed in gray down the hill on our right rear. They seemed to hesitate for a while; so did we, because some of our thought they were 1st Ind. men, of our brigade, who at that time wore gray uniforms. When they commenced firing we returned it, and drove them back.

We were still firing at everything we could see, when the man on the gray horse came back alone and looked around again. Soon after he rode back, Fry, who was our lieutenant, Co. C, slipped down to where we had shot some of the men that had come up on our right rear, and he could see beyond the angle in the road. He called to us to "Look out, boys! There they come with their old cannon!" They tried to shoot at him, he said, "but it would not go off."

Soon after this Col. Fry came up to us for the first time. He had been hard pressed. He had been riding an iron-gray horse. He wore a blue military cap, a single-breasted blue uniform coat, and a blue army cap. He was well out to the angle of the road when the same man appeared, as he had done twice before. He rode up to Col. Fry, and he and the Colonel rode side by side toward us, and in conversation with each other. None of us could hear what was said, although some of our men were in 20 feet of them.

I was about 40 or 50 feet from where the stranger halted. Col. Fry rode on about 25 or 30 feet, when a man galloped up from behind. Our stranger passed him a few yards, and he rode back to the angle in the road. The Colonel immediately wheeled his horse, remarking, "That is your man, is it?" raised his pistol, and fired at the man on the gray horse, who remained standing where he had halted. A good many of us fired also, and on account of the dense underbrush, we were not sure who we killed.

Col. Fry, as soon as the smoke cleared up and showed no enemy in sight, rode into the field. The enemy then commenced firing at him, and he was turned to come back; as he did so his horse was hit in the side by a musket-ball. Fry rode back to the angle in the road, and one of the men led the horse down the road to our left rear.

A few minutes after the Colonel had dismounted he came over and sat down beside us on a log. The enemy allowed themselves at the angle in the road, and were watching for them, firing at every opportunity. They finally disappeared, and Capt. John Williams, Co. C, came up and remarked that an officer must be killed over there, from the anxiety of the enemy to get his body. Col. Fry immediately replied that it was the man he killed.

Soon afterwards the Colonel moved down the ridge towards the center of the line. I advanced cautiously towards the angle in the road, and reached it unobserved. No enemy was in sight alive, but I found several dead in front of me, one of them the body of the man of the gray horse. He was lying flat on his back, his arms extended. He had upon his person a white rubber overcoat, unbuttoned, a blue Federal army cap, and a double-breasted blue army officer's coat, the top buttons of it unbuttoned, displaying a side pocket the top of a willow flask. A field-glass was slung from a leather strap on the outside of his rubber coat. Underneath this coat, but outside of his uniform, his sword was buckled.

Not wishing to disturb his arms, I unbuckled the field-glass strap and took off his sword and belt, gathered them up, pulled his cap down over his eyes, and left him. I started down the line, found Col. Fry, handed him the articles, telling him I had taken them from the body of the man he killed, and that I believed the enemy were falling back.

Gen. Thomas was sitting on his horse a few yards back of Col. Fry, and wished to know what it was I said. I repeated. Immediately he turned to his Aid (I think it was Lieut. C. Beckwith, now Inspector-General, U. S. A.) gave him some order, and the Aid left.

I returned to my company on the right, and we were relieved soon afterwards by the 2d Minn. and 9th Ohio advancing. We fell back under the hill for ammunition, and I went back to my company. I was informed that the officer killed was Gen. Zolicoffer, and I think Jacobs informed also Col. Fry; for I was ordered immediately by Col. Fry to place a guard over the body, and allow no one to disturb it. I detailed John Thompson and John Sigman, of my company, to the point where we had taken the instructions as given to me. After we received our supply of ammunition we were ordered forward, and I turned the body over to Lieut. A. W. Steele, of the 10th Ind., Acting Quartermaster of our brigade. We marched on to the breastworks that evening.

Col. Fry, the next day, related the conversation to me he had with Gen. Zolicoffer when riding with him. Gen. Z. remarked: "Colonel, don't let us be shooting at our friends," and he replied, "Certainly not, sir," and they separated.

Two days afterwards a Surgeon (I think his name was Cliff) came down to the breastworks to see Col. Fry, and stated that Gen. Zolicoffer's body had been denuded of clothing, and he wished to obtain some for it. I was informed that the body had been found across Col. Battle's trunk (he was Colonel of the 20th Ind., and I still have it) and in it was a blue uniform. It was at Cliff's disposal. He went with me over to my quarters, and I delivered the uniform to him, and in conversation had with him at the time he stated that Gen. Zolicoffer had three bullet wounds in his body—one small and two large.—J. A. VAUGHAN, Captain, Co. B, 4th Ky., Leavenworth, Kan.

SUPPORTS COMRADE MOSS.

Notwithstanding the Incomplete Testimony of the Rebellion Records.

IN the issue of June 1 Capt. R. A. Moss, of the 16th Ind., calls attention to an error in your statement of the composition of the Sixth Division, Sixteenth Corps, June 30, 1862, claiming that there were three companies of the 2d Tenn. H. A., viz. A, B, and D, organized and reporting for duty at that date at Columbus, Ky., which you have omitted; whereas your Corps Editor sits down on Moss, and cites the 16th Ind., vol. 2, part 3, page 454, showing that Co. C, 2d Tenn. H. A., stationed at Island No. 10, only is reported, and you add this is undoubtedly correct.

So it is so far as is concerned the report as taken from the volume in question, for I have said volume in my possession; but I wish to "fall in" in support of Comrade Moss, and join issue with the compiler of the Rebellion Records.

There were four companies of the 2d Tenn. H. A. reporting for duty June 3, 1862, within the limits of this regiment to Island No. 10, viz. Co. A—Capt. Madison, First Lieut. W. H. H. Adams, Second Lieut. R. A. Moss; Co. B—Capt. A. B. Dalton, First Lieut. J. C. Bell, Second Lieut. not assigned; Co. C—Capt. Wm. Grant, First Lieut. Wm. H. H. Adams, Second Lieut. not assigned; Co. D—Capt. Albert Rutkay, First Lieut. John Siebel, Second Lieut. not assigned. Lieut. Col. C. H. Adams, 2d Ill. L. A., was in command as Acting Colonel.

In proof of the above I submit the following extracts of orders in my possession: HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, SIXTH DIVISION, SIXTEENTH CORPS, COLOMBIA, KY., June 22, 1862. Special Order 151. The following officers of the 2d Tenn. H. A., are detailed to the 16th Ind. to assist in the defense of Island No. 10, and will proceed to their respective stations. Quartermaster will furnish transportation. Lieut. Daniel Matson will accompany Capt. John A. Gordon, commander at Island No. 10, and take charge of all colored soldiers sent to him. By order of (Signed) BRIG.-GEN. ASHOTE. T. H. HARRIS, Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, SIXTH DIVISION, SIXTEENTH CORPS, COLOMBIA, KY., June 23, 1862. Special Order 152. Extra. 2d Tenn. H. A., will send Co. C, 2d Tenn. H. A., to Island No. 10 to guard the contraband colony. Capt. John A. Gordon, commander at Island No. 10, will immediately proceed with his company to Island No. 10, and report for duty to Lieut. Daniel Matson will accompany Capt. John A. Gordon, commander at Island No. 10, and take charge of all colored soldiers sent to him. By order of (Signed) BRIG.-GEN. ASHOTE. T. H. HARRIS, Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, SIXTH DIVISION, SIXTEENTH CORPS, COLOMBIA, KY., June 23, 1862. Special Order 153. Extra. 2d Tenn. H. A., will send Co. C, 2d Tenn. H. A., to Island No. 10 to guard the contraband colony. Capt. John A. Gordon, commander at Island No. 10, will immediately proceed with his company to Island No. 10, and report for duty to Lieut. Daniel Matson will accompany Capt. John A. Gordon, commander at Island No. 10, and take charge of all colored soldiers sent to him. By order of (Signed) BRIG.-GEN. ASHOTE. T. H. HARRIS, Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, SIXTH DIVISION, SIXTEENTH CORPS, COLOMBIA, KY., June 23, 1862. Special Order 155. Extra. 2d Tenn. H. A., will send Co. C, 2d Tenn. H. A., to Island No. 10 to guard the contraband colony. Capt. John A. Gordon, commander at Island No. 10, will immediately proceed with his company to Island No. 10, and report for duty to Lieut. Daniel Matson will accompany Capt. John A. Gordon, commander at Island No. 10, and take charge of all colored soldiers sent to him. By order of (Signed) BRIG.-GEN. ASHOTE. T. H. HARRIS, Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, SIXTH DIVISION, SIXTEENTH CORPS, COLOMBIA, KY., June 23, 1862. Special Order 156. Extra. 2d Tenn. H. A., will send Co. C, 2d Tenn. H. A., to Island No. 10 to guard the contraband colony. Capt. John A. Gordon, commander at Island No. 10, will immediately proceed with his company to Island No. 10, and report for duty to Lieut. Daniel Matson will accompany Capt. John A. Gordon, commander at Island No. 10, and take charge of all colored soldiers sent to him. By order of (Signed) BRIG.-GEN. ASHOTE. T. H. HARRIS, Assistant Adjutant-General.

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assured him for that evening, but next morning while eating breakfast the rebels tossed a shell into camp as gentle hint that we were not moving up the Valley fast enough, and it was all I could do to get the darky to stay long enough to pack up the things and prepare for the day's march.

"Now," said I, as he mounted his mule to go to the rear, "don't you let that horse go." He said he wouldn't if they didn't have to retreat too fast. I assured him that if he lost that horse he would be killed through the day I would surely shoot him when we got to camp that night. But it didn't do any good. By the time we were in position ready to receive the rebels their advancing battery three shells far to the rear, and my darky thought the time for rapid retreating had come; that every shell that came singing through the air was screaming "Where's dat darky?" He abandoned the horse, and then thinking he could make better time afoot abandoned the mule also, and kept on to the rear. I never saw him again. Our company commander received both the horse and the mule as they tried to pass him in the road.—E. M. WATSON, Captain, Co. L, 9th Mich. Cav., Marquette, Mich.

THE SAUNDERS RAID.

Sketch of the Part Taken by Two Guns of Battery D, 1st Ohio L. A.

IN the issue of May 11 I notice an interesting sketch of the raid made by the guns of R. C. Rankin, Captain commanding detachment, 7th Ohio Cav.

As to exact dates of the burning of a woolen-mill at Xenia, and the artillery practice at Knoxville, the Captain is a little off. He says we crossed the Cumberland River June 18, 1862, and we were in the morning of June 18, which village and post was at least 70 miles south of the Cumberland River where we crossed. The woolen-mill spoken of was a cotton-mill, and was not burned. I saw the cotton-mill at Xenia, Tenn., June 18, 1862.

The Captain said at Knoxville, at daylight, the artillery fired three shots. Now, I helped to man one of the two guns, when the guns were used on all this raid, and know that 10 to 15 shots were fired from each piece at Knoxville, when the attack was made by us in the morning.

It is now 30 years since the Saunders raid was made, and perhaps a sketch of the raid as I saw it would not be uninteresting. The expedition or raid, under command of Gen. Saunders, to destroy the East Tennessee & Georgia Railroad, was made on the morning of June 14, 1862. We reached Worsburg soon after sunrise on the 18th. The enemy was surprised, and surrendered over 100 men, with considerable supplies of ammunition and provisions. We paroled the prisoners, destroyed the bridge, and divided the provisions among the people of the village, and those who came in from the country.

By 10 o'clock we had completed our destruction and division and were again on the march, intending to strike the railroad at London, where the railroad crosses the Tennessee River.

Learning that the force at London was greater than we expected, we struck the railroad at Xenia, 24 miles west of Knoxville, having to march much of the night of the 18th to reach Xenia in the morning. Here the depot was burned, containing a considerable amount of fixed ammunition. We withdrew to a safe distance to witness the pyrotechnic display.

On June 19, as we started from Xenia, a detail was sent to the railroad bridge near the town of London, to destroy the railroad bridges, trestles, etc., while the main column pushed on for Knoxville.

On the morning of the 20th, about 7 o'clock, a demonstration against Knoxville was made. As we advanced toward a ridge about a half mile northeast of the town, the enemy's 14 guns opened on us. Our two guns soon got into position on the ridge to the left of the Cumberland Gap road, and began the unequal contest with the enemy. We were satisfied that we were winning, for the ridge that our artillery practice had not been in vain. But on our return to Tennessee, on June 20, we learned that we had been defeated.

On June 20 we marched to Strawberry Plains, capturing a number of prisoners, cannon, and some supplies, and we reached the railroad bridge across the Holston River. On the 21st we marched to Mossy Creek, making destruction as complete as possible of everything that would benefit the rebels. Our next business was to get back to Kentucky, as we had completed the task assigned us, and the destruction of the railroad from Xenia to Mossy Creek.

We found, after two days and nights of return march, that all gaps and passes through which artillery could cross the mountains were strongly held by the enemy. The order was to retreat, and we were driven back to the river. The guns were spiked, and gun-carriages and wheels were cut down. Quick work was done when the necessity came to abandon those two pieces. The writer and his immediate companions greatly regretted the necessity for this retreat, and the destruction of the guns, for on several occasions they had been wanted to make history for the Union.

After the artillery was abandoned we marched on a ridge till opposite Clark's Gap, then across and over the Gap, camping just over the mountain. The rebels were in the morning we continued our march via Boston, Williamsburg, London, reaching Mt. Vernon, our starting point, in the afternoon of June 27, tired but not dispirited.—SAMUEL S. KELSO, Battery D, 1st Ohio L. A., Muskegon, Mo.

The 30th Iowa was raised from the State-at-large from Aug. 19 to Dec. 23, 1862, to serve three years, and was mustered out of service June 5, 1865. Charles H. Abbott, its first Colonel, was killed in action at Vicksburg May 22, 1863, and his place was filled by William M. G. Torrence, who was killed at Cherokee Station, Ala., Oct. 21, 1863. Until the date of muster-out the regiment was under the command of Lieut.-Col. Charles H. Abbott. The regiment participated at Chickasaw Bluff, Arkansas Post, siege of Vicksburg, Brandon, Cherokee Station, Chattanooga, Ringgold, Claysville, Resaca, Dallas, Kennesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Savannah, Columbia, Bentonville, and Raleigh. It was in Steele's Division of the Fifth Corps, and lost 317 men. Of these eight officers and 65 men were killed in action or died of wounds, and three officers and 244 men died of other causes.

The 10th Ind. Cav. known also as the 125th Ind., was organized at Columbus, Terre Haute, New Albany, Vincennes, and Indianapolis from Dec. 30, 1863, to April 30, 1864, to serve three years, but was mustered out Aug. 31, 1865, with the loss of 317 men. Of these eight officers and 65 men were killed in action or died of wounds, and three officers and 244 men died of other causes.

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PICKET SHOTS.

From Alert Comrades, All Along the Line.

Corps Histories.

STUART A. McDONALD, Cleveland, O., complains of certain errors which he alleges exist in the History of the Sixth Corps, as published in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. The Editor of the Corps Histories wishes to say that the errors, however, to which his points are those of omission (failure to give list of companies in the army with which they had picked up). Finally the farmer got mad at so much pestering and pulled his gun, but it went off in the air, and he began to think he had struck a hornet's nest. He tried to turn around, but his wheels came off, and he was unable to move. He threw the ground, and the boys got a feast. Then the rebels cheered. The Yankees had a good scheme for escape there. Through the summer they were allowed an old mule and a cart to take the debris out of camp, and the prisoners drove it. One or two men would conceal themselves under this rubbish and be taken outside. It is estimated that about 100 men made their escape in this way. Finally some fellow carrying far "blew" the thing to the rebels, and after that the rebels had a man to drive the cart and mule.

A Gettysburg Incident. S. C. Bradley, First Lieutenant, Co. K, 11th N. Y., King's Ferry, N. Y., says that on the evening of the second day at Gettysburg he was struck by a grape-shot on the upper hand of his sword scabbard. The sword was in the scabbard, and with it was doubled up at an angle, so that the sword could not be withdrawn at the time, and I was using my revolver, which accounts for the position of my sword.

The next day, in facing Pickett's charge, near Ziegler's Grove I was wounded, and with Col. D. McDowell (since General), Capt. Mead, Lieut. Capron, and several other officers of my regiment who were wounded, went home on leave. Our swords were all made up in a bundle and entrusted to the care of a negro servant of McDowell's, who was sent to the rear. We reached Albany, N. Y., where he disappeared, taking the sword with him. Mine was the only one which had marks distinctive enough to be recognized at this distant day, but about mine there could be no mistake. The scabbard was of leather, and the upper hand of brass, and broad enough to show the full impress of the grape-shot. Somebody, doubtless, has that sword now in possession as a curiosity, and I should like to recover it.

Black River Bridge. James T. Russell, 72 West Fourteenth St., Dubuque, Iowa, writes: "I never had such a desire of crossing the bridge as I have now in regard to the truth of the charge at Black River Bridge, May 17, 1863, which the 23d and 21st Iowa made alone, capturing all the prisoners, cannon, ammunition, rebels running and receiving their surrender or started for their safe position behind the bank. The 23d and 21st Iowa nearly 200 men, and not another regiment one in that three-minute's charge."

Scattering. John Wingrove, Co. K, 1st W. Va., Proctor, W. Va., sends in his claim as one of the soldiers who were killed at the age of 16 years and two days, carrying a musket all the time.

J. A. Vaughan, Captain, Co. B, 4th Ky., Leavenworth, Kan., still has the trunk belonging to Col. Battle, which he picked up during his service, and he is anxious to know where the family now is, so as to be able to return it. Among other things, he has a memorandum book with the name of F. Lang in it.

Capt. E. Kryder, Bonifay, Fla., wants to correspond with some skilled canneryman in the North with a view of employing him to superintend the writer's cannery establishment. A comrade is preferred.

AT VICKSBURG. The Editor of the Corps Histories Sets a Comrade Right.

IN the issue of June 1, 1893, an article on operations of the Seventeenth Corps in front of Vicksburg, I see note of Gen. Sherman's command of the Sixteenth Corps, and if I remember he did good fighting on the 19th and 23d of May. I see in this report Gen. Sherman's command is left blank.

I belonged to the First Division, Second Brigade, Sixteenth Corps, and was in front of Vicksburg from the time we drove the rebels behind their breastworks until the surrender.

Our Corps (the Sixteenth Corps) lay on Gen. John A. Logan's right. We charged on the 22d of May, and on the 23d of May we gained the breastworks. On getting up to the breastworks our loss was so great we did not have men enough to go over the breastworks and hold them. We had to fall back the night of May 22 and the night of May 23. Gen. T. Sherman commanded our division. Gen. J. A. Mower commanded our brigade, which was composed of the 47th, 11th Mo., 8th Wis., and 5th Minn.—J. H. BOWMAN, First Lieutenant, Co. D, 47th Ill., Oak Lodge, Ind. Ter.

The writer of this communication belonged to Mower's (Second) Brigade, Tuttle's (Third) Division, Fifteenth Corps, commanded by Gen. W. T. Sherman. This division originally belonged to the Sixteenth Corps, but it was transferred to the Fifteenth Corps on April 3, 1863. While in the Sixteenth Corps it was designated the Eighth Division, and was commanded by Brig.-Gen. L. F. Ross. If the writer will read the history of the Fifteenth Corps, commencing with issue of April 6, 1893, he will find credit given to his command for its operations before Vicksburg.—EDITOR CORPS HISTORIES.

The 31st Ohio. The 31st Ohio was organized from the State-at-large in August and September, 1861, to serve three years. The original members, except veterans, were mustered out Sept. 26, 1864, and the veterans and recruits retained in service until June 13, 1865. Col. Thomas Morton resigned July 30, 1864, and was succeeded by Robert N. Adams, who received a brevet of Brigadier-General March 13, 1865. The regiment was attached to Sweney's Division, of the Sixteenth Corps. It was in the battles of Shiloh, siege of Corinth, Tusculum, Town Creek, Leys Ferry